

REMARKS

Claims 1-64 are pending in the present application. In the above amendments, claims 2, 3, 5, 14, 16-21, 47, 48, 52-56 and 58-62 have been amended, and claims 1, 46, 57, 63 and 64 have been canceled without prejudice.

In the Office Action mailed November 6, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 46, 63 and 64 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by I et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,088,335, and claims 57, 63 and 64 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Krishnamoorthy et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,636,500. Claims 22-45 were allowed. Claims 2-21, 47-56 and 58-62 were objected to as being dependent from rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully respond to this Office Action.

Claims 1, 46, 57, 63 and 64 have been canceled.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 14 and 16-21 have been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 1 and are therefore now in condition for allowance. Claims 4, 6-13 and 15, which are dependent from claims which are now allowable, are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 47, 48 and 52-56 have been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 46 and are therefore now in condition for allowance. Claims 49-51, which are dependent from claims which are now allowable, are also in condition for allowance.

Claims 58-61 have been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 57 and are therefore now in condition for allowance. Claim 62 has been amended to depend from claim 61 instead of claim 58 to correct an inadvertent typographical error. Because claim 61 is now allowable, claim 62 is also allowable.

Specification

Applicants provide herewith amendments to the specification. The amendments to the specification are made by presenting marked up replacement paragraphs which identify changes made relative to the immediate prior version.

The changes made are primarily typographical or grammatical in nature, or involve minor clarifications of awkward wordings.

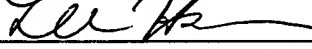
Applicants believe these changes add no new matter to the application and are fully supported by the Original disclosure.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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